

# Bedhampton Parish

St Thomas & St Nicholas

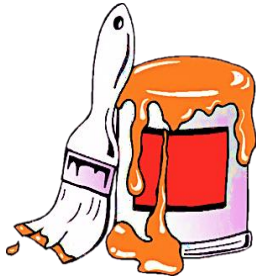


February  
2024

£1.00p

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## Winter

I know I'm not the only one who dreads the Winter, the short days and wet and windy weather. Time passes so quickly, it is hard to believe that we are already into the second month of the year.

It is easy to allow the Winter months to lower our mood, particularly after all the excitement of Christmas.

Having just celebrated the birth of Jesus and remembering the hope this brings, we can continue with this positive thought. Driving through Bedhampton it is clear to see that all the bulbs are starting to sprout and it won't be long before the beautiful daffodils line the roads. As we look around our village we are continually reminded of the marvel of God's creation and with Spring approaching this also brings us hope of brighter, longer days and some warmer weather.

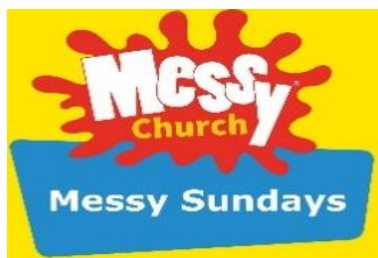
Spring is my favourite month, after the dullness of Winter, the colours of Spring seem all the more vibrant and cheerful. We seem to easily forget that whilst nature appears to stand still during Winter, it is in fact busy at work preparing for new life. I like to remind myself that this is similar to our relationship with God. Even when it is not obvious to us or we think that he has forgotten us, God loves us and is continually performing miracles and working for the good in our lives.

One thing we can be sure of, God is relentless, if we allow Him, he can be the one consistency in our lives. Even in the most difficult times God gives us hope and strength and provides eternal love. In the bustle of daily life we should never forget how much God loves us, scripture tells us: 'How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!' And that is what we are!

*1 John 3:1.*

Let us remember God's providence and focus and be thankful for the love of God and the peace this brings.

Tracey  
Churchwarden



All are welcome to Messy Church which usually take place on each first Sunday of the month, 10.30am at St Nicholas Church. There are craft activities, songs and stories for the whole family.

Refreshments available.

**Beacon Food Bank** contributions can be made at Asda, Tesco, and Waitrose, or in the black box at the Rectory in Bidbury Lane.

The food bank is most in need of:

Tinned meals      Tinned puddings  
Tinned fruit and veg      Rice, jam spreads  
Pot noodles/Packet noodles  
Coffee and sugar      Toiletries

*Thank you for your support.*

### FAMILY NEWS

We send our good wishes to all those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month, including Pete Spencer and Janice Stott.



### Pause And Pray

A time to pause and gather together to pray for our Borough for 1 hour.

Monday 12th February 6 - 7pm  
at Church of the Good Shepherd,  
Crookhorn; All welcome

### St Nick's Flicks

will meet again on

**Tuesday**

**20th February**

**1.45 for 2pm**

at St Nicholas' Church

A free film show with refreshments.  
Enquiries to Parish Office.  
All welcome – no need to book.



### BEDHAMPTON CALENDAR

Why not take some local photos for a Bedhampton calendar.

Keep taking photos – they may be submitted for any year.

If you have any photos of local interest, please send them to the Parish Office, ideally by email; although prints can be accepted and will all be safely returned.



*Cover: Jerusalem, Church of the Holy Sepulchre*

### **29th February - Oswald of Worcester, the saint for Leap Year**

There is a saint for Leap Year: he is St Oswald of Worcester, who died on 29th February 992. His family story was extraordinary, and full of some surprising 'leaps', all by itself. It provides a tantalising glimpse of what happened to at least one of those pagan Viking warriors who settled in Anglo-Saxon Britain.

Oswald's great-uncle had come to England c 865, as part of the 'Great Heathen Army' of Viking invaders. But his son, Oswald's uncle, Oda, forsook paganism, and not only converted to Christianity, but actually ended up as Archbishop of Canterbury. From there, Oda was in a position to help his nephew, Oswald, which he did.

Oda sent young Oswald to be educated at the abbey of Fleury, then a great centre of learning. There Oswald absorbed the Benedictine ideals which would guide his later life and work. Back in England, he became bishop of Worcester in 961, and with the support of King Edgar, eagerly joined in major reforms of the Anglo-Saxon church. In 972 Oswald was made Archbishop of York and seems to have taken a great interest in renewing the church in the Danelaw. He founded Ramsey Abbey, which became one of the great Fenland monasteries.

Oswald was popular as an archbishop, and always washed the feet of the poor every Lent. On 29th February 992 he had just completed this service at Worcester when he collapsed and died. In later years, Worcester adopted both him and Wulfstan to be its two chief saints: they flank the tomb of King John, which is before the high altar in the cathedral.

The next Leap Year is in 2028

### **The war in Gaza-Israel – Bishops urge people to pray – and act**

"The first thing Christians can do in response to war is to pray for peace and for those affected." That is the message of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

The Archbishops are praying for "those mourning, those injured, and all those fearing for their safety," and for "restraint on all sides, and renewed efforts towards a just peace for all."

The Archbishops and Bishops are also encouraging Christians throughout the UK to join them in prayer, and to consider practical action, by supporting organisations "working to promote peace and human flourishing in the Middle East."

Various charities are giving help and support where needed. Christian Aid is the official ecumenical arm of Churches in Britain and Ireland and has been working with the poorest and most vulnerable people in the Middle East since the early 1950s, when it provided humanitarian relief to Palestinian refugees. The Church Mission Society is a historic Anglican mission society which supports mission partners across the region. Let us continue to pray for peace in all troubled parts of the world.

### Remembering John Marshman

John Marshman was born in Portsmouth on the 18th September 1945 and died on the 18th September 2023. Rev Sylvia Roberts, who kindly presented John's eulogy at his Thanksgiving Service at St Thomas's, did some research into this phenomenon and found that John shared the experience with William Shakespeare, Raphael (artist not turtle!) and Ingrid Bergman. A very exclusive club!

John was born and raised in Portsmouth where he enjoyed a happy childhood with his loving parents and his three sisters. He attended Milton Primary School and the Southern Grammar School for Boys. He left school at 17 and began working for the National Provincial Bank. It was at the Bank that he met Jenny in 1966 and they were married in 1968. He was already a Special Constable at that time, working every Friday night in Southsea, which he really enjoyed. In late 1970 their daughter Emma was born, followed in January 1973 by Daniel. There was a bit of a break then until Ruth arrived to complete the family in 1980. John was a much-loved husband, Dad, Granfy and father-in-law. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren. Emma, Daniel and Ruth all have slightly different special memories of their Dad, but they all include how it was mostly he who went to them in the night if they were poorly or having bad dreams when they were young. He was always happy to take them out, and pick them up, from nights out, along with their friends, as they grew older, and always willing to listen and offer support when they were upset about anything.

John gradually became disenchanted with working at the Bank during the 1970's and felt that he was living for his Friday nights with the police and he started thinking about joining the regular force. It was in 1974 that Bishop Peter Price entered his life and his arrival changed the lives of both John and Jenny. Peter was a curate then, involved in setting up a new church in Crookhorn. As the family began attending the informal services in the local school they made strong friendships which have lasted for the last 50 years. When John broke his leg Peter started visiting him regularly. At first John wasn't particularly interested in "religion" but his regular conversations with Peter gradually led him to a strong faith. At Crookhorn Church he served as Treasurer and later when the family joined the Bedhampton parish, John served on the Hall Management Committee at St. Nicholas and was also the parish Safeguarding Officer. In more recent years, John joined the little singing group of which Jenny was a part and who sang with Shirley Wallis at the services at St Nicholas.

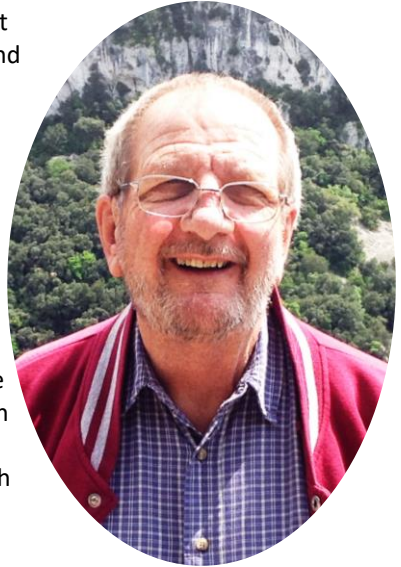
It was his faith which gave John the courage to finally join the regular police force in 1978. He began at Cowplain police station where he had lovely colleagues – many of whom attended his Memorial Service. He became beat bobby for Purbrook, where he was a familiar figure on his bike. He knew everybody, young and old, law abiding and law breaking, and they all knew and respected him.





He was always very good with people and knew the best way to handle a difficult situation. He later joined CID and did stints on various squads including car crime and witness protection and was involved with setting up a specialist Child Protection Unit at a house in Havant, jointly with Social Services. He remained with this unit for three years, during which time he dealt with a large number of cases, many of which ended up in court. He later joined Special Branch at the ferry port, which he thoroughly enjoyed.

He completed an advanced French course and became fluent enough to converse with the French police on the telephone. He also made many cross-channel trips when he enjoyed the generous hospitality of his French counterparts. He later transferred to the Special Branch office in Totton where he made more new friends and acquired the nickname "Swampy".



When he retired from the police force in 2005, John became Safeguarding Officer for the Diocese of Portsmouth until 2010, after which he was offered a similar position by the Methodist Church. He finally retired at the end of 2016, but unfortunately became ill with his brain abscess and infection in March 2017.

John's illness meant an end to the hobbies he enjoyed – clay pigeon shooting with his son-in-law and friends and driving his classic car with Jenny. They belonged to the South Hants Vehicle Preservation Society where they enjoyed many events and trips out, including a holiday to Brittany with all the old cars. They also enjoyed many interesting trips with the Retired Police Organisation. John always regretted not being able to continue with these activities or to go on the holidays they had planned. After nine months in hospital, and two brain operations, John moved to a Nursing Home. Jenny and the family regularly visited him. Covid lockdown was very difficult and he had to put up with Zoom calls! The family always made sure that they arranged a special taxi so John could join in with family celebrations at birthdays and Christmas but he was never really happy in a nursing home, although he was very well cared for. He was just full of frustration at not being able to do anything for himself.

To finish on a more positive note - Sylvia also found a reference in an old Jewish scripture which says: "It is special and perfect to die on your birthday. You have completed your God given mission and after a life well lived, you are going out in a meaningful and legendary way". So well done John!

*The Marshman Family*

*See also overleaf*

### Remembering John Marshman *continued*

John also took a very keen interest in classic cars. He first had an MG Midget, then a red MGB Roadster. He is pictured here with his third car, a 1951 MGTD in British Racing Green.

John and Jenny belonged to the MG owners club for a while and enjoyed taking part in trips overseas.



### **What's the Big Idea? *An Introduction to the Books of the Bible: Exodus***

This month we are starting to look at Exodus, the second book of the Old Testament. Its name means departure, reminding us that Israel's flight out of slavery in Egypt is the major focus of the book.

Exodus is a book of two halves! The first part (chapters 1-19 and 32-34) is the story of an oppressed people who are delivered from slavery into a life of freedom. The second half (chapters 20-31 and 35-40) consists of detailed instructions about the life and worship of God's people. The book introduces us to their *salvation* or deliverance, as *story*. God's promises to Abraham are fulfilled as the people journey to the Promised Land. He also renews His covenant with them at Sinai, expressed in the Ten Commandments (20: 1-17).

At the heart of Exodus is the person of God Himself. In chapter 3, God reveals His name as YHWH or '*I am who I am*' (3:14) to Moses. This is the name by which God is known throughout the Old Testament, expressed in the title '*the LORD*'. To know God's name is to know Him, as well as His character i.e. His justice, truthfulness, mercy, faithfulness and holiness. He is the God who controls history, delivering the people out of Egypt, while the death of the Passover lamb points us to Jesus' death on the cross (1 Corinthians 5:7).

God's promises of help remain true for us today: '*Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today.*' Exodus 14:13.

*'This Exodus story continues to be a major means that God uses to draw men and women in trouble out of the mess of history into the kingdom of salvation.'* (Eugene Peterson).



### FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Havant Chamber Orchestra

**Saturday 3rd February, 7.30pm**

**Holy Trinity Church, Fareham**

Schubert, Mozart, Mendelssohn

Soloist: Alexandra Peel – violin

**Solent Symphony Orchestra**

**Saturday 9th March**

Portsmouth Cathedral

Flute concerto performed by Emme

Hensel, award winner of

Portsmouth Music Festival

### Portsmouth Music Festival 2024

Portsmouth Menuhin Room

(Central Library)

Saturday 28th January - Guitar, strings

Mon – Wed, February 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> - piano

Sat & Sun 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> February - vocal

Park Community School

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February - Speech & Drama

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> – Sun 18<sup>th</sup> February – Dance

Crookhorn College

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> February - Woodwind & Brass

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Rock & Pop

Gala Concert – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 3pm

[www.portsmouthmusicfestival.co.uk](http://www.portsmouthmusicfestival.co.uk)



More information about Kids Clothes Line next month: Sunday 18th March



### SAM & CHLOE

As we go to print this month, we have not yet heard any news from Sam and Chloe Mutton. At present, they are in this country awaiting the arrival of their third child. We hope to bring that news next month. We pray for them and their family and also for all their missionary projects and funding in Uganda.

### Festive Shenanigans – 4<sup>th</sup> Bedhampton Guides-Style!

We had a very busy few weeks leading up to the festive period at the end of last year.

The girls wanted a Guide Christmas party so we took them to ASDA to buy the food for the following week.

Most girls aren't involved in the shopping in their household – indeed, in many cases, food just arrives on the plate each day! In today's fast-paced lives, many families use online methods – either 'click and collect' or home deliveries. So, this activity developed many skills which were new for some.

The girls were given the challenge of buying two savoury and one sweet item and they rose to it very well! We had bargains galore! It involved adding up prices in order to be within budget, developing communication skills and compromising to find the best food that catered for everyone's tastes. Once the girls had selected their items, they made their way to the self-service where a Guider purchased their goods.



They were under strict instructions to keep the food for a week at home, and if the temptation to eat it was too great in that time, they had to bring along a replacement of the same quality and type!

We are pleased to report that all of our Guides are 'honest, reliable and can be trusted' (most of the time!) and our party went ahead the following week with all the delicious food we had bought the week before!



We took part in the Christmas Tree Festival at St. Thomas' Church in December and our contribution represented our love and support for the Foxlease appeal.

*More next month.*



Ticket

Price

£ 6.00

Must be  
bought  
in advance

# FASHION SHOW



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**All at bargain prices!!**



**15<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

7.00 pm (Doors open 6.30pm)

**St. Nicholas Church  
Centre, Belmont Grove,  
Bedhampton**

Ticket includes a welcome drink

**Admission by ticket only - All tickets  
must be purchased prior to the event**

Organised by Bedhampton Friends of Guiding  
(FOG) - proceeds raised will benefit all Guiding  
Units in the district

Enquiries – 07838230885 or 07895952959



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### Shrove Tuesday – Pancakes

Why do we have pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, as we call it today? And what is Shrove Tuesday? And why do thousands of people feel it rewarding to race along a street somewhere tossing pancakes from their frying pans as they go?

The day before Lent begins and for well over a thousand years that has meant it was the last chance to enjoy meat, fat and other tasty dishes until Easter Day. The 'Lent Fast' was widely and strictly observed. The food in the larder wouldn't keep for six weeks so it had to be eaten. With all these rich foods no wonder the French call it 'Fatty Tuesday' – Mardi Gras.

'Shrove' is an old word for 'forgiven' and in those days to prepare for the rigours of Lent, people would want to confess and seek forgiveness. They were quite simply enjoying life while they could! So, on Shrove Tuesday, have some fun and make it last as long as possible.

In Saxon times on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, (when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting), the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be 'shriven' or absolved from their sins, which gives us *Shrove* Tuesday. At home they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they almost starved themselves.

### 'Lenten Valentines'

This month both Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day fall on the same day! The link between the two can be summed up in terms of the nature of real love! Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, focuses on learning to love God more, as we give Him space in our lives. This is what Jesus found when He was led into the desert by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan. (Luke 4:1-13).

Jesus was tempted to turn stones into bread. Yet loving God and His word comes before satisfying physical desires. Satan tempted Jesus to worship him. However, worshipping God is an expression of loving God and serving Him.

Finally, He was tempted to put God to the test, by jumping off the Temple. Real love for God does not put Him to the test, but wants to obey Him.

Valentine was a Christian who demonstrated the importance of sharing God's love with others. We know little about him, except that he was a priest who lived in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century AD and that he was martyred on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

Emperor Claudius felt that soldiers in the Roman Army were distracted from their duty by their wives, and so had attempted to outlaw marriage. It is believed that Valentine married couples in secret, which is why today we celebrate our love for one another on his day.

**Coming soon:** Kids Clothes Line – helping families dress their kids.

A local charity that collects quality clothing and footwear for children aged 2-16 years.

Mission Sunday: 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Thomas and St Nicholas.

Lent teaches us how to live out the love of God in practical ways, as we follow Jesus in the way of the Cross. We see this clearly demonstrated in the life and death of St. Valentine. Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan. Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3rd February and 9th March.

### Bedhampton Summer Show Saturday 6th JULY



**To Plant a Garden is to  
believe in Tomorrow**

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**Stansted Park** 7-9 JUNE Rowlands Castle

**Broadlands** 26-28 JULY Romsey, Hampshire

[www.thegardenshows.com](http://www.thegardenshows.com)

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# PUZZLE PAGE

## Wordsearch – Romance

February is the month of romance. Millions of Valentine cards will be sent in the next week or two, as we celebrate our romantic love for that special person in our lives. But there are other kinds of love to celebrate: and on Candlemas we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby son to the temple to present Him to God. Jesus' whole life was a loving present to us from God. Through His death for us on the cross, and His resurrection, His love can now transform anyone's life. Romances can die, but God's love for us is always there. But it won't do us much good – unless we accept it!



Valentine	boyfriend
Rose	fiancé
Romance	worship
Love	repentance
Present	angels
Restaurant	baby
Hearts	temple
Kiss	Mary
hug	Candlemas
girlfriend	presentation

## JANUARY SOLUTION



Answers  
next  
month







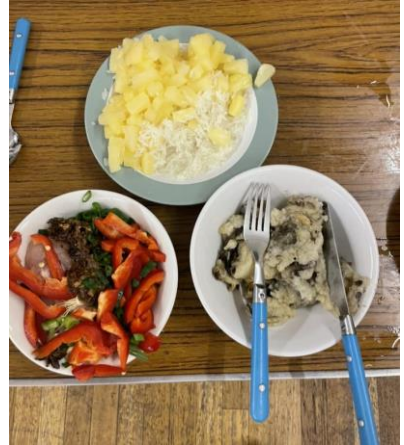
## Winter Activities

[www.1stbedhampton.co.uk](http://www.1stbedhampton.co.uk)

## Bingo Night

Sat.27 January, 6.30pm  
St Nicholas Church

The New Year has begun with a variety of activities, mostly indoors keeping warm during the cold weather spell. The younger scouts had an evening of cooking. On the menu was sweet n sour chicken – from scratch, no cheating with jars of sauce! The picture below shows all the boys working in their groups, putting together their creations.



We are still in need of help in the Beaver section (6-8 year olds) following Mel having her second Baby. We are also after help in the Scout section (10½-14 year olds) as Becky and I are pleased to announce that we are also expecting our second child.

We also need some more help with our Executive Committee which supports the Group but not a weekly commitment.

If you know someone who might be interested in helping us in 2024, please let us know.

*Contact: Nigel Vosper – Scout Group Leader*



# COMMUNITY

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## BEDHAMPTON VOLUNTEERS – 20 YEARS

On behalf of the people of our village who recognise our attempts to improve our environment, a very large measure of appreciation for your varied contributions over those many years. Those physically active each Thursday, watering the summer hanging baskets, helping maintain our 60 odd gardens, collectors, extending 'the path', litter picking, etc. Volunteering not just time, but plants, shrubs, trees, tools, sundries and monies.

Over the past 20 years we've created these small and large public gardens, (measuring a mile in total) instead of the previous brambles and wasted land, which not only attracts litter but a constant reminder of lack of care in our community. A demonstration of this care can rub off, and can even prompt increased awareness, prompting less litter, and hence improving our levels of civic pride. With shrubs, plants and trees offering more to the eye, providing more for wildlife with increased flowers and berries; Indelibly registering attention to the need for that something extra, our doing something for free for the benefit of people you don't know. Known more by outsiders for our over 400,000 bulbs in early spring, along around 5 miles of our roads, as well as the main roads hanging baskets on lamp posts and the sight of those individuals 'bowsering' in the summer; these characters failing to adopt, as yet, the next level which would be maypole or Morris dancing.



We lost two gardens recently. First the Coop contractors deemed it necessary to remove our gardens to replace the store's reinforced car park to cater for the weight of the delivery lorries; now almost restored thanks to so many of your donations of trees, shrubs and plants. This has prompted the Coop to become our generous sponsors. Across the road, after several incidents, the landlord of the shops decided to employ a digger to clear our 15 year old garden from alongside the Belmont newsagents. We are without an official motto, but it could be 'Never Give Up'.

In recent weeks, the Volunteers have been tidying up at the corner of Meyrick Road where they were very grateful for some different coffee and posh biscuits! They have also been clearing rubbish around the Rusty Cutter roundabout and were hoping to do similar near the Asda roundabout. But suddenly they have an offer of plants to clear from a garden with a need for immediate replanting.

Now half way through January, daffodil bulbs which are usually showing at this time of year seem to be a bit slow, perhaps due to the extreme wet conditions. However, the wallflowers at the Coop garden that were received free from the New Blendworth Centre last year, are starting to flower again.

We always need more people in order to lessen the efforts of our current aging volunteers, also more waterers in the summer. Thanks to all.

*Pete Spencer*

**Havant Trefoil Guild**  
**Invite Church members to an informative talk given by**



**HAMPSHIRE AND<sup>®</sup>**  
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**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

2pm to 4pm

St Nicholas' Church Centre

Belmont Grove, PO93PU

The talk will be approx. 45 to 60 minutes

Followed by Tea/Coffee and Cake (There is always cake!!!)

Entrance... By donation to this worthwhile cause.

If you would like to join us, please phone Sharon Clapson on 02392 482783

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**Our Vision:** To always bring exceptional pre-hospital critical care to you.

**Our Values:** Openness, Dedication, Professionalism, Teamwork.

## COMMUNITY

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### BACK IN TIME in February

150 years ago on 15th February 1874 Sir Ernest Shackleton was born. This Irish-born British polar explorer was one of the leading explorers during the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration. He led three British expeditions to the Antarctic.

100 years ago, on 5th February 1924, BBC Radio broadcast the 'six-pips' Greenwich Time Signal for the first time.

Also 100 years ago on 12th February 1924, George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* was performed for the first time, in New York.

90 years ago on 23rd February 1924 Edward Elgar, the British composer, died.

75 years ago, on 22nd February 1949 Niki Lauda, Austrian racing driver was born. He was Formula One World Champion in 1975, 1977 and 1984. He was severely injured and burnt in a crash at the 1976 German Grand Prix. (Died 2019.)

70 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1954 the first field test of the polio vaccine began in Pittsburgh. It grew into a year-long national trial involving 1.8 million children.

65 years ago, on 3rd February 1959 became 'the day the music died', when American rock-and-roll performers Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and The Big Bopper were killed in a plane crash in Iowa.

60 years ago, on 7th February 1964 the Beatles arrived in New York for their first US tour. They were met by thousands of screaming fans.

50 years ago, on 7th February 1974 Conservative Prime Minister Edward Heath called a snap general election following the miners' strike and three-day week. It resulted in a hung parliament, and the Labour leader, Harold Wilson, became Prime Minister.

40 years ago, on 14th February 1984, figure skaters Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean won the gold medal in ice-skating at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo. They scored the first perfect 6.0 in Olympic history.

30 years ago on 25th February 1994 that serial killer Fred West was arrested in connection with the disappearance of his daughter. He and his wife Rosemary were eventually charged with multiple murders.

25 years ago, on 1st February 1999, the International Maritime Organisation stopped using the Morse code 'SOS' distress call. All sea-going vessels were required to have a Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) fitted by this date.

20 years ago on 4th February 2004, Facebook, the social media networking platform, was launched.

15 years ago, on 7th January 2009, the Black Saturday bushfires took place in Australia, the worst in the country's history, destroying 1.1 million acres of land; they killed 173 people injured 414, and burned down more than 3,500 buildings, including 2,000 houses.

**Ukraine:** Although Russian troops were massing near the borders of Ukraine in February 2022, we naively believed their denial that an attack was imminent. Since then, an all-out war has resulted in tens of thousands of civilian deaths, and hundreds of thousands of military casualties. A quarter of the Ukrainian population has been displaced.



## MOTHERS' UNION

### Advent



On Tuesday 28 November, Bedhampton Parish Mothers' Union were pleased to host the annual Deanery Advent Service at St Thomas Church. Our members were joined by Felicity Keeping, Diocesan President and Vivienne Gowlett, Deanery Co-ordinator, in addition to MU members from other Deanery branches. The service was conducted by Revd. Jill Kingston who also enrolled a new MU member.

After the service we shared afternoon tea and presented Jill with a special MU vase as this was her last Mothers' Union annual service at St Thomas before moving on to another parish to complete her training.



Photo top: Branch Leader Ann Partridge with Revd. Jill Kingston. Above: the MU vase. Right: newly enrolled member Lorraine Maltby, Revd. Jill Kingston and Felicity Keeping, Diocesan President of the Mothers' Union.

We would like to place on record our sincere thanks to Jill for the support she has given our branch and send our love and warmest good wishes to her and her family for the future.

Marie Payne  
Branch Secretary



## COMMUNITY EVENTS



### MOTHERS' UNION FEBRUARY

*Wednesday 7th Holy Communion  
9.30am at St Thomas*

*Tuesday 27th 2 pm. Branch Meeting*

#### **A Talk on Ghana**

*Speaker: Angela Herring*

*At St Nicholas Church*

*All welcome*

*Contact: Marie Payne: 07929 776687*

The Arts  
Society  
Portsmouth



### **The Medicis and their Artists**

*Speaker: Paula Nuttal*

**Thursday 8th February 2pm**

**at the Spring Arts Centre, Havant**



### **FUN CLUB**

For babies and toddlers  
parents or carers  
at St Nicholas on

**Thursdays 9 – 11 am in term time**

Lots of fun things to do;  
songs, art and craft;  
tea and chat for adults.

Contact Sally on  
023 9247 5078  
or just come along.



### **St Nicholas Church**

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Please contact the office  
on 023 9248 3013

[Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk](mailto:Hello@Bedhamptonparish.org.uk)

### **St Nicholas Belmont Grove Bedhampton**



**C**ome and join us

**O**nce a week

**F**riday morning

**F**rom 10.30 to 12 noon

**E**njoy coffee or tea and cake

**E**veryone welcome

Advertising space available.

Please contact the Parish Office



## BAPTISMS

*We welcome into  
the Church Family*

Nevaeh Sturman



## REST IN PEACE

*We pray for the families of  
those who have recently died*

Jean Hildersley  
Mike Bettesworth  
Anne Turk



## Dates for your diary

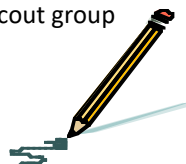
Tuesday 13th February: Talk by Air Ambulance,  
St Nicholas, 2 - 4pm

Friday 15th March, 6.30pm: Fashion Show  
Bedhampton Friends of Guiding  
Tickets £6 to be bought in advance. Page 9

Saturday 17th March: ANNUAL DUCK RACE  
Organised by the Scout group

## FEBRUARY 2024

### Magazine



For information about advertising and the  
'Magazine by mail' service, contact the Parish  
Office (see below)

We warmly welcome advertisers to our magazine  
but the Parish does not accept responsibility for  
the quality of work carried out.

All material for the next issue should be sent to  
the Parish Office, St Nicholas Church, Belmont  
Grove, Bedhampton, PO9 3PU by  
10 am on **Monday 5th February**  
[Office@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Office@Bedhampton.church)

Don't judge each day by the harvest  
you reap but by the seeds that you  
plant.

*Jay Blades*

Rector : Rev Max Cross 023 9248 3013

Email : [Max@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Max@Bedhampton.church)

*Day off: **Saturday***

Churchwardens : Ann Partridge 023 9247 2180

Tracey Smith

Deputy Churchwardens : Sandra Matthews 023 9248 4669

Mike Tritton 023 9247 5078

Parish Administrator : Deb Vears 023 9248 3013

*Parish Office open 9.30 am – 12.30 pm on Monday to Friday*

Enquiries for Weddings, Baptisms

Email: [Hello@Bedhampton.church](mailto:Hello@Bedhampton.church)

## Services for FEBRUARY 2024

### **SUNDAY 4th**

St Thomas            9.00 am  
*St Nicholas*        10.30 am  
 St Thomas            4.00 pm  
 On-line service    5.00pm

### **( Epiphany 5 )**

Holy Communion  
*Messy Sunday*  
 Compline  
 (St Thomas)

### **SUNDAY 11th**

St Thomas            am  
**St Francis Church 10 am**  
*St Nicholas*        10.30 am

### **( Sunday next before Lent )**

No service  
 Licensing for Revd. Jill Kingston  
*Morning Worship*

### **WEDNESDAY 14th**

St Thomas            9.30 am

### **( Ash Wednesday )**

Holy Communion

### **SUNDAY 18th**

St Thomas            9.00 am  
*St Nicholas*        10.30am  
 St Thomas            4.00 pm  
 On-line service    6.00 pm

### **( Lent 1 )**

Morning Praise  
*Holy Communion*  
 Celtic Evening Prayer  
 (St Nicholas)

### **SUNDAY 25th**

St Thomas            9.00am  
*St Nicholas*        10.30 am

### **( Lent 2 )**

Holy Communion  
*Morning Worship*

**ON-LINE:** Where an on-line service mentions a church,  
 at [www.Bedhampton.tv](http://www.Bedhampton.tv) and Facebook  
*On-line services are usually available for both services each week.*

## MID-WEEK HOLY COMMUNION SERVICES

<b>Wednesday 7th</b>	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion (M.U.)
<b>Wednesday 14th</b>	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 21st</b>	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion
<b>Wednesday 28th</b>	St Thomas	9.30 am	Holy Communion

Edited and produced by the Churches of Bedhampton Parish



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